

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 02-7916**

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CHRISTOPHER COLYN GUTKNECHT,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

ALTON BASKERVILLE, Warden,

Respondent - Appellee.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, at Alexandria. T. S. Ellis, III, District Judge. (CA-02-554)

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Submitted: March 6, 2003

Decided: March 14, 2003

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Before WILKINSON, MICHAEL, and KING, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Christopher Colyn Gutknecht, Appellant Pro Se. Jennifer Ransom Franklin, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF VIRGINIA, Richmond, Virginia, for Appellee.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit. See Local Rule 36(c).

PER CURIAM:

Christopher Colyn Gutknecht seeks to appeal the district court's order denying relief on his petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000). We have independently reviewed the record and conclude that Gutknecht has not made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right. See Miller-El v. Cockrell, \_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 2003 WL 431659, at \*10 (U.S. Feb. 25, 2003) (No. 01-7662). Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability and dismiss the appeal. See 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c) (2000). We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED